

FISCAL MANAGEMENT NEWS\$

[A Newsletter Published by the Fiscal Management Division of OMB]

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Surveys

In June, the Fiscal Management Division sent surveys to every state agency asking for input on the quality and timeliness of our services.

The Retirement and Investment Office returned their survey first, followed by the Governor's office and the Wheat Commission. Good job!

Thanks to everyone who responded. We have found your responses very useful. A detailed report on the results of the survey can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

We Did it Again !

For the 7th year in a row, the Fiscal Management Division of OMB has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the FY97 CAFR (Comprehensive Annual Financial Report) of the state.



This prestigious award is presented by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada.

New Staff

On September 1, Bev Haman will begin her duties as Administrative Assistant in the Fiscal Management Division. She is replacing Renee Tjaden who retired in March.

Bev's primary responsibility will be the publication of the annual CAFR. She is coming to OMB from the Office of the Attorney General.

Welcome Bev !

If you have questions or comments, please call (701)-328-4904.

SURVEY RESULTS

Accounting

<u>Question</u>	<i>On a scale of 1 to 5, 5.00 is the highest possible score</i>	<u>Rating</u>
1	How satisfied are you with the timeliness of the SAMIS reports & other accounting information provided to you?	4.12
2	How satisfied are you that the information you receive is helpful & understandable?	4.03
3	How satisfied are you that the Accounting staff is timely with their response when contacted with questions or problems?	4.68
4	How satisfied are you that you are treated with respect & courtesy by the Accounting staff?	4.71
5	How satisfied are you that the information in the SAMIS instructional manuals (On-line Accounting Systems & RDARS Manuals) is helpful & understandable?	3.65
6	How satisfied are you that the information in the Fiscal & Administrative Policies Handbook is helpful and understandable?	4.11
7	What is your overall level of satisfaction with the services provided by the Accounting section of OMB?	4.53

Our manuals received the lowest ranking in the accounting area. We recently hired Becky Deichert, and one of her first assignments is to rewrite the SAMIS manual and look at improvements to the payroll manual. She has started the process and will be seeking input from agencies on suggested changes and improvements.

Budget

<u>Question</u>	<i>On a scale of 1 to 5, 5.00 is the highest possible score</i>	<u>Rating</u>
1	How satisfied are you with the timeliness of the budget guidelines & other information provided to you?	4.27
2	How satisfied are you that the information you receive is helpful & understandable?	3.94
3	How satisfied are you that the Budget staff is timely with their response when contacted with questions or problems?	4.58
4	How satisfied are you that you are treated with respect & courtesy by the Budget staff?	4.81
5	How satisfied are you that OMB listens to your concerns and understands the critical issues of your agency?	4.18
6	How satisfied are you that your agency is treated fairly in regard to the budget process?	4.22
7	What is your overall level of satisfaction with the services provided by the Budget section of OMB?	4.47

Our improvement efforts in the budget area will be to try to give better or more helpful information. This includes making the SIBR manual more user friendly.

CAFR

<u>Question</u>	<i>On a scale of 1 to 5, 5.00 is the highest possible score</i>	<u>Rating</u>
1	How satisfied are you with the timeliness of the CAFR guidelines & other information provided to you?	4.37
2	How satisfied are you that the information you receive is helpful & understandable?	4.23
3	How satisfied are you that the CAFR staff is timely with their response when contacted with questions or problems?	4.52
4	How satisfied are you that you are treated with respect & courtesy by the CAFR staff?	4.66
5	How satisfied are you that the On-Line Closing Package System is helpful and understandable?	4.28
6	What is your overall level of satisfaction with the services provided by the CAFR section of OMB?	4.47

Overall, high marks are telling us to stay the course in developing the CAFR.

Payroll

<u>Question</u>	<i>On a scale of 1 to 5, 5.00 is the highest possible score</i>	<u>Rating</u>
1	How satisfied are you with the timeliness of the Payroll reports & other information provided to you?	4.48
2	How satisfied are you that the information you receive is helpful & understandable?	4.36
3	How satisfied are you that the Payroll staff is timely with their response when contacted with questions or problems?	4.32
4	How satisfied are you that you are treated with respect & courtesy by the Payroll staff?	4.42
5	How satisfied are you that the On-Line Payroll System Manual is helpful and understandable?	4.03
6	What is your overall level of satisfaction with the services provided by the Payroll section of OMB?	4.48

Our lowest grade again appeared relative to the payroll manual. As noted for the accounting area, we are reviewing the payroll manuals and plan some improvements - and perhaps a full reprinting of the payroll manual.

Again, thanks to everyone who took the time to respond. By this time next year, user friendly manuals should be in your hands.



OMB e-mail addresses have been recently updated:

We're on the Web!
<http://www.state.nd.us/omb/fiscal>

Backman, Rod
Bartz, Brian
Borr, Karen
Deichert, Becky
Fines, Sheryl
Franklin, Sharon
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Hoesel, Will
Holwegner, Eileen
Krabbenhoft, Dave

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Meidinger, Bob
Peterson, Sheila
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Sharp, Pam
Smith, Arvy
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